

Education & Student Experience

August 2026



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Welcome to the August 2026 edition of UNSW Education & Student Experience News!

This month, discover what's changing in assessment at UNSW, learn practical ways to support students in distress, and check out the process of applying for UNSW's Teaching Awards in 2026! You'll also find the latest resources, events and stories from our community.

Enjoy the read and please help us spread the word by sharing this newsletter with colleagues who may be interested in [subscribing](#).

Education news



From permissions to purpose: a program level approach to assessment in an AI-integrated university

Learn why UNSW is moving to three modes, or categories, of assessment. Associate Professors Tracy Wilcox, Mark Ian Jones and Professor Alison Beavis explain what's driving these timely and important assessment changes, which will come into effect from Hexamester 6 2026. [Read blog](#).



Assessment & Feedback at UNSW: August updates

View a summary of the key A&F updates, including practical information on how and when the changes will be reflected in our systems and what this means for you. For example, the three new assessment modes will be implemented in ECOS from 18 September. Save the date for an A&F information session on 16 September. [Learn more](#).

Curriculum Transformation

Professional Development support

Following the professional development sessions for Program Authorities in Term 1 and Term 2, the dedicated [SharePoint resources site](#) now includes the July recordings (at the bottom of the page).



Course Convenors will be invited to a tailored professional development series in Term 3 – keep an eye out for the schedule, which will be made available on the [Education events page](#) and shared via this newsletter.

UNSW colleagues are encouraged to share their curricular innovations with others working on Curriculum Transformation. The Course Design & Development EF CoP invites you to join their collaboration session on 18 August - learn more about this and other related events in the 'What's on?' section below.

Student experience news

Support for students in distress

If you regularly interact with students, the *Supporting Students in Distress* one-hour Moodle module is a valuable resource to help you support your students by being able to identify signs of distress, respond appropriately and connect them with the right support services. [Learn more](#).



Stories from our community

Can assessment be both secure and inclusive?

by Education-Focussed Lecturer Dr Teagan Mock

As universities rethink assessment in the age of AI, Dr Teagan Mock explores how a key challenge is not choosing between security and inclusion, but designing assessment that delivers trustworthy evidence of learning for every student. [Read blog](#).



Connecting the dots

by Senior Lecturer Christina Byun

When students feel lost in the “nitty-gritty”, visual learning tools such as mind maps can help them make meaningful connections across complex content. [Read blog](#).

More UNSW education blogs & news

View all UNSW teaching and learning blogs and news. Share your story about supporting and enhancing education and the student experience at UNSW.

[View now and submit your story.](#)

Opportunities and resources



Join the Academic Procession

Take part in the Academic Procession at the Graduations Ceremonies from 17–24 August at the Sir John Clancy Auditorium. Your presence on stage is a meaningful part of the ceremony for our graduates. [Register now.](#)



UNSW Awards for Teaching

Nominations are open until Sunday 13 September for the 2026 UNSW Awards for Teaching. These awards recognise people who have made outstanding contributions to student learning and student experience. [Learn more.](#)



Reimagine your course with the Media and Immersive team

Need engaging educational media for your course? The PVCE Media and Immersive team can help you create educational media and immersive learning experiences for your students. Complete their short expression of interest form so they can plan support when you need it most. [Learn more.](#)



Human skills in a digital world course

Build the confidence to recognise, demonstrate and communicate your skills with this free new UNSW professional development course. Across five modules, you'll reflect on your experiences, map evidence of your skills and practise telling stronger skills stories. [Register now.](#)

Insights from Echo360 recording



Missed the Insights from Echo360 presentation? The session recording is now available for interested UNSW staff to watch back! [Learn more.](#)

What's on?

Course Design & Development CoP: collaborative session

Tue 18 Aug | 10-11am | Online and Teaching Commons

Have you developed a curriculum and course design innovation that others could learn from? Join the Course Design & Development EF CoP this month to explore how your work could inspire the UNSW's Curriculum Transformation. Open to all staff, the session will offer practical guidance on presenting as part of the Curriculum Transformation series, hosted at the Teaching Commons, from Term 3 onwards.

Register now.



Feedback Workshop Sprint

Wed 2 Sep, Thu 3 Sep and Thu 10 Sep | Teaching Commons

Join this four-part workshop series and explore giving effective feedback, designing feedback across a course, building students' feedback literacy and using rubrics to support learning. Attend the full series or choose individual sessions, and take away practical strategies to use in your courses. **Register now.**

AI in Education Festival 2026

Tue 8 Sep | 10am-4pm | Online and Teaching Commons

The AI in Education Festival is back for its third year, and you are invited to discover what's happening in AI and education at UNSW and more broadly across the sector. The one-day program is designed with flexibility in mind – colleagues are welcome to drop in to any or all sessions. Featuring a morning keynote from our own Professor Toby Walsh, this is an annual event not to be missed. **Register now.**



Writing your Education Case for Level C promotion

Wed 19 Aug | 10:30am - 12pm | Online and Teaching Commons

If you're planning to apply for a Level C promotion in the coming year, this session is designed for you. Learn more about how to prepare ahead for your education case, hear from colleagues who successfully navigated it last year, and gain practical tips to strengthen your own application. Open to academic colleagues on all pathways. **Register now.**



See more upcoming sessions on the [Education events page](#).

View more news

- [Register for the next SoTL series event and learn how to incorporate an educational escape room into your teaching](#)
- [Join EdTech @ UNSW Foundation-level sessions for Term 3 2026](#)
- [Check out new UNSW Online postgraduate programs](#)
- [Tune in to 'From Idea to Impact: Nexus conversations' podcast and hear how people, partnerships and practices are shaping educational innovation](#)
- [Discover the new Teaching Gateway migration update](#)

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UNSW Sydney



UNSW respectfully acknowledges the Bidjigal, Biripai, Dharug, Gadigal, Gumbaynggirr, Ngunnawal and Wiradjuri peoples, on whose unceded lands we are privileged to learn, teach and work. We honour the Elders of these Nations, past and present, and recognise the broader Nations with whom we walk together.

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